

REMARKS:

Claims 1-32 were pending in the application. Claims 1-14 and 16-32 have been amended. Claims 33-36 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-36 are now pending in this application.

The amendments to the claims are supported throughout the specification, including not limited to: 2:42-3:10, 4:17-67, 5:18-47 and the previous claims. The nature of the amendments to the originally filed claims (1-14, 16-20) is apparent from the amendments themselves, each of these claims being amended for the first time. The amendments to the claims filed during reissue (21-32) relative to the previous version of these claims is shown in the attached Appendix.

Section 102 Rejections

The Examiner rejected all independent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Kittirutsunetorn (U.S. Patent No. 5,051,720). Applicant submits that Kittirutsunetorn is merely representative of technology disclosed in Applicant's specification:

It is known in the art to remotely awaken a powered-off computer with a facsimile ('Fax') signal or a modem signal coupled to the computer's serial port from the telephone. However, such 'awakening' requires a FAX or modem signal to be sent to the specific telephone number associated with the computer's modem.

U.S. Patent No. 5,958,057 2:23-28. Applicant traverses these rejections and submits that the previous and amended claims are patentably distinct over the cited reference.

Claim 1 recites in part (emphasis added):

a network interface of the switched-off member receiving said broadcasted information, wherein at least a portion of said network interface is receiving power even though a remaining portion of the switched-off member is not, wherein **the network interface includes a decoder, a comparator, and a power control unit;**

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that Kittirutsunetorn's "remote modem 123" and "first slave unit 141" teach the claimed "interface." *See* Office Action at 2. Applicant

disagrees, and submits that Kittirutsunetorn does not teach or suggest (among other features): 1) “the network interface **of the switched-off member**” and 2) “the network interface includ[ing] **a decoder, a comparator, and a power control unit**” as recited in claim 1. Instead, Kittirutsunetorn discloses a local computer 111 coupled to first remote computer 121 and a second remote computer 171 through a single, shared modem connection (i.e., modems 113 and 123). *See* Kittirutsunetorn Fig.1 and 5:1-10. First, Kittirutsunetorn does not disclose that remote modem 123 is contained within remote computer 121. *See id.* at Fig. 1. On the contrary, Kittirutsunetorn appears to disclose an external modem. *See id.* 15:21-22. Second, Kittirutsunetorn does not appear to indicate that remote modem 123 contains first slave unit 141. In fact, Kittirutsunetorn suggests that the first slave unit 141 “may be located a substantial distance (i.e., more than 12 feet) away from the master unit.” *See id.* 4:14-17. Since Kittirutsunetorn is concerned with “turning power on, off or dim” for “**a plurality of appliances...by way of slave power control units,**” Kittirutsunetorn discloses slave power control units external to the remote modem. *See id.* (abstract) and Fig. 1. Accordingly, Kittirutsunetorn does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1. For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims are believed to be patentably distinct over the cited reference. The remaining independent claims and their corresponding dependent claims are believed to be patentably distinct over Kittirutsunetorn for reasons similar to those provided for claim 1.

Independent claim 36 recites in part “a network interface of a client computer system receiving one or more data packets from a server computer system, wherein the receiving occurs while at least a portion of the network interface is receiving power but a remaining portion of the client computer system is not.” Claim 36 believed to be patentably distinct over Kittirutsunetorn for at least reasons similar to those presented for claim 1.

Removal of the § 102 rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extension of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) is necessary to prevent the above-referenced application from becoming abandoned, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-61002/DMM.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

The current amendment amends claims 21-32. These claims did not appear in the issued patent, and were added by a previous amendment. Changes to the claims are shown below, relative to the prior version of the claims:

21. (Amended) A ~~client~~ computer system comprising:
a network interface coupled to operable with a network
~~multi-computer system that comprises a plurality of such client-computer systems,~~
wherein the network interface receives coupled to a network, a server computer system coupled
to said network and operable via said network to issue information packets from one of the
computers that include address information having a predetermined pattern of bits to at least one
of said client computer systems, the client computer system including:, and wherein the network
interface includes a decoder, a comparator, and a power control unit;
a source of operating power;
a switch unit coupled to said source of operating power and to said client computer
system such that operating power is provided to said client computer system in a switch unit ON
state but is interrupted in a switch unit OFF state; and
a network interface to connect said client computer system to said network, said network
interface comprising a decoder, a comparator, and a power control unit;
wherein when said switch unit is in said OFF state:
wherein said decoder, said comparator, and said power control unit receive are coupled to
a power source;
wherein said network interface is configured operable to receive said information packets
issued by said server computer system;
wherein said decoder is configured operable to decode said address information included
in said information packets;
wherein said comparator is configured operable to compare the decoded said address
information with at least one or more stored patterns of bits held stored in said network interface,
and to output a power-on signal to said power control unit when a said stored one of the one or
more patterns of bits matches the decoded said address information; and
wherein said power control unit is configured operable to pass operating power from said

~~power source of operating power via said network interface to said client computer system upon receipt of the power-on signal when the power control means is in said OFF state;~~

~~wherein said sever computer can power on said client computer system when said switch unit for said client computer system is in said OFF state.~~

22. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of according to claim 21, further comprising a switch unit coupled to a power source, wherein:

responsive to the power control unit receiving a power-on signal, said switch unit is configured operable to supply full power from the power source to said client computer system even if whether said switch unit is in said OFF state with said client computer system is in a powered off mode, or is in said ON state with said client computer system in a low-power mode.

23. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of according to claim 21, wherein said network interface consumes less than 30 watts operating of power when said client computer system is in a power off mode.

24. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of according to claim 21, wherein said comparator comprises a hashing mechanism.

25. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of according to claim 21, where said comparator comprises register comparator logic hardware.

26. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of according to claim 21, wherein:

said at least one or more stored patterns of bits held in said network interface includes at least a first pattern of bits representing associated with a broadcast address and a second pattern of bits representing associated with a client address; and

said comparator outputs a power-on signal when the decoded said address information matches one of said first pattern of bits and said second pattern of bits.

27. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of ~~according to~~ claim 21, wherein:
said power control unit is selected from a group consisting of a
(i) power control integrated circuit, and (ii) a MOSFET switch.
28. (Amended) ~~A client~~ The computer system of ~~according to~~ claim 21, wherein said network interface is provided on a card.
29. (Amended) A method comprising: ~~of powering on at least one client computer system in a networked multi-computer system that includes a server computer system coupled to said network and includes a plurality of such client computer systems coupled to said network where each client computer system includes a source of operating power, a switch unit coupled to said source of operating power and to said client computer system such that operating power is provided to said client computer system in a switch unit ON state but is interrupted in a switch unit OFF state, and a network interface to connect said client computer system to said network, said network interface comprising a decoder, a comparator, and a power control unit; wherein, when said switch unit is in said OFF state said decoder, said comparator, and said power control unit are coupled to a source of operating power, the method comprising the following steps:~~
 - (a) ~~said a~~ network interface of included in a ~~client computer system coupled to said a~~ network receiving, at a time when said switch unit of said client computer system is in said OFF state, an information packet including address information having a predetermined bit pattern ~~of bits and issued by said~~ from a server computer system coupled to said network, wherein the network interface includes a decoder, comparator, and a power control unit;
 - (b) ~~said decoder of said client computer system~~ decoding said predetermined bit pattern ~~address information~~ included in said information packets;
 - (c) ~~said comparator of said client computer system~~ comparing said decoded ~~address information~~ predetermined bit pattern with at least one ~~stored~~ pattern of bits stored held in said network interface, and outputting a power-on signal to said power control unit when a ~~said~~ stored pattern of bits matches said decoded predetermined bit pattern ~~address information;~~ and
 - (d) ~~said power control unit of said client computer system~~ passing ~~operating power from said source of operating power via said network interface to said client computer system upon receipt of said power-on signal when said switch unit is in said OFF state;~~

whereby said server computer is able to power on a predetermined client computer system when said switch unit of said predetermined client computer system is in said OFF state.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein said power control unit is ~~operable to~~ supplies full power to said client computer system responsive to said power-on signal, even if irrespective of whether said power control means is in the OFF state with the client computer system is powered off or in the ON state with the client computer system in a low-power mode.

31. (Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein at least one stored pattern of bits ~~held in~~ said network interface includes at least a first pattern of bits ~~representing~~ associated with a broadcast address and a second pattern of bits ~~representing~~ associated with a client address, and said comparator outputs said power-on signal when said decoded predetermined bit pattern ~~address information~~ matches one of said first pattern of bits and said second pattern of bits.

32. (Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein ~~said server computer system issues a~~ message the information packet includes broadcast address information, associated with a plurality of computer systems coupled to the network, and wherein the information packet is transmittable to each of the plurality of computer systems to cause each of the plurality of computers to receive power. and at least two client server systems receive power from their ~~respective power control units when decoded said broadcast address information matches at least one said stored pattern of bits.~~